

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
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P R 261644Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5065
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01523

ROME PASS VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, PARM, GW, BR
SUBJECT: GERMAN PRESS REACTION TO MONDALE-SCHMIDT
TALKS ON GERMAN-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

1. SUMMARY. ALL MAJOR GERMAN NEWSPAPERS REPORT THAT THE GERMAN-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL WAS A VITAL PART OF THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE AND FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT DURING THEIR MEETING ON JAN. 25. MOST REPORT A STRONG MUTUAL DETERMINATION TO SOLVE EXISTING DIFFICULTIES IN A COOPERATIVE MANNER. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL PAPERS CARRY ALMOST IDENTICAL STORIES ABOUT SCHMIDT'S REMARKS THAT THE FRG HAS ALWAYS FULFILLED ITS COMMITMENTS TO OTHER NATIONS. IT IS GENERALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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NOTED, HOWEVER, THE CHANCELLOR ALSO CONCEDED THAT TALKS "ON A HIGH LEVEL" COULD LEAD TO ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS IN THE AGREEMENT. THE "FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU" (FR) QUOTES OFFICIAL CIRCLES THAT SUCH A COMPROMISE COULD ONLY BE REACHED IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH BRAZIL AND THAT NO PROVISIONS WERE ACCEPTABLE THAT MIGHT LEAD TO A CANCELLATION OF THE

AGREEMENT. FR CONTINUES THAT THESE OFFICIALS FELT VERY RELAXED BECAUSE IT WAS NOW BRAZIL'S TURN TO REACT TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S PROPOSALS.

3. ACCORDING TO "WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG" (WAZ) SCHMIDT AND MONDALE AGREED THAT ALL GERMAN INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS WERE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE NPT. WAZ GOES ON TO REPORT THAT THE CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS SHOW THAT FRG IS READY TO ADAPT THE PROVISIONS OF THE NPT TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF NUCLEAR

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TECHNOLOGY. "NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG" OBSERVES THAT SCHMIDT'S OFFER TO DISCUSS ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS IN THE BRASILIAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT COULD ONLY RESULT IN THE CANCELLATION OF THE EXPORT OF THE ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING FACILITIES WHICH WOULD THEN BE COMPENSATED BY AMERICAN DELIVERIES OF ENRICHED URANIUM TO BRAZIL.

4. "DIE WELT" SPECULATES AS USUAL ABOUT THE

TREMENDOUS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES THAT ANY ALTERATION OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE FOR THE FRG. THE PAPER ARGUES THAT THE CANCELLATION OF DELIVERY OF THE TWO SENSITIVE PLANTS WOULD LEAVE THE NUCLEAR AGREEMENT A "TORSO" WHICH COULD NOT INTEREST BRAZIL. "DIE WELT" SEES GERMANY IN A JAM: THE US, AS THE ONLY SUPPLIER OF ENRICHED URANIUM IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE, COULD STARVE THE GERMAN-BRASILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL BY PUTTING PRESSURE ON GERMAN ELECTRIC UTILITIES. SUBSEQUENT GERMAN RENOUNCEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT WOULD CERTAINLY MAKE THE BRASILIAN REFUSE TO EXPORT URANIUM ORE TO THE FRG. IN SUCH A SITUATION, "DIE WELT" ASSUMES THE US WOULD NOT HESITATE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ALL COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES THAT OPENED UP.

5. EMBASSY NOTE: RE PARA 3 AND 4 ABOVE: GERMAN NEWSPAPERS HAVE AS YET COMMENTED ONLY BRIEFLY ABOUT REPORTED OFFER OF GUARANTEED SUPPLIES OF US ENRICHED NUCLEAR FUEL TO BRAZIL, PROVIDED THAT BRAZIL FOREGOES ENRICHMENT AND REPROCESSING PROJECT (BRASILIA 0607).

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Decaption Note:
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